(c) what measures are proposed to be taken for quick disposal of cases by settlement Commission (Income-tax/Wealth-tax)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The number of cases pending for disposal during 1990-91 and 1991-92 were 2538 and 2490 respectively.

(b) Cases disposed of during 1990-91 and 1991-92 were 975 and 941 respectively.

(c) Amongst the steps taken for quick disposal of cases are: implementation of simplified admission procedure and the provision for submission of report by Commissioner of Income Tax within 120 days.

Operation of Foreign Banks in India

4211. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as on 31st March, 1992 the growth rate registered on deposits in public sector banks was 15.55 per cent over the previous year, whereas the growth rate was as high as 51.74 per cent in case of foreign banks during this period;

(b) if so, what are the reasons of wide divergence in these rates of growth;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these foreign banks do not undertake social banking; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the growth rate in terms of deposits of foreign banks for the year ended 31-3-1992 was 51.47 per cent (and net 51.74 per cent) over the previous year.

(b) The performance of foreign banks in India vis-a-vis public sector banks is not comparable because the branches of foreign banks are located in metropolitan cities and port towns whereas the branch of public sector banks are spread all over the country including semi-urban and rural areas. Moreover, foreign banks have worldwide networks of branches which enable them to attract more deposits from Non-Resident Indians.

(a) and (d) Foreign banks were required to achieve a target of 15 per cent in respect of advances to the priority sector by the end of March, 1992. The position in this regard is monitored by RBI on a half-year.

Normal increments for R.R.Bs staff in Uttar Pradesh

4212. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of RRBs in Uttar Pradesh that had extended notional increments as per the revised State Government's pay scales, as allowed in West Bengal, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, as per the NABARD's recommendation;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the names of Uttar Pradesh did not allow the notional increments in the above fashion; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to rectify the above anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that Government of Uttar Pradesh had revised the pay scales of the State employees vide their orders dated 3-6-89. The remuneration of officers and other employees of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in a State had earlier been equated with the employees of that State Government of comparable level and status for their salary structure. With the implementation of National Industrail Tribunal award, the situation has sice changed. The de-